



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: RONGHUA WEI ET AL.  
Filed: MARCH 26, 2004  
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FORMING A NITRIDE LAYER  
ON A BIOMEDICAL DEVICE  
Serial No.: 10/811,485  
Group Art Unit: 1775  
Examiner: DANIEL MILLER  
Atty. Dkt: SWRI:003 (3020)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.8, I certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date below:

8/21/06  
Date

*Karen Fessler*  
Name

**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO RESPOND TO**  
**OFFICE ACTION DATED JUNE 20, 2006**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

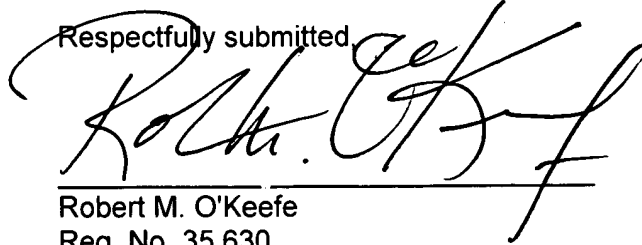
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), Applicants petition for an extension of time for one month(s) to and including August 20, 2006, in which to respond to the office action dated June 20, 2006.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.17, a check in the amount of \$60.00 is enclosed, which is the fee for a one month(s) extension of time.

If the check is inadvertently omitted, or should any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason relating to the enclosed materials, or should an overpayment be included herein, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct or

credit said fees from or to Deposit Account No. 10-1205/SWRI:003.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert M. O'Keefe", written over a horizontal line.

Robert M. O'Keefe  
Reg. No. 35,630  
Attorney for Applicants

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